



SQUARE KNOT NOTES

Monthly Edition

From your Sam Houston Area Council Commissioner Team

March 2018

WOLF RANK

A boy who is 8 years old or in the second grade is a Wolf, and his adventures are found in the Wolf Handbook. Like all other new Cub Scouts, a Wolf must first earn his [Bobcat rank](#). After completing the requirements for Bobcat he may go on to complete the requirements for the Wolf rank and the many electives that are offered for his rank.



EMOJI SCOUT LAW

Boys Life Magazine asked their readers to vote for the emojis that best represented the Scout Law. These are the winners!



A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

TWO DEEP LEADERSHIP

While no Scouter questions the value of Youth Protection training and policies — we all agree on the need to keep young people safe — some Scouters have asked for clarification about implementation. Many of those questions are about policies requiring two-deep leadership and prohibiting one-on-one contact. On occasion, those separate policies get confused and intermingled. Essentially, it boils down to this: At least two adults are required on every BSA outing. During that outing, there should be no one-on-one contact between an adult and a youth. Parents and youth are advised to follow this and other Youth Protection policies for the overall safety of all involved. But there might be moments when just one leader is present with two or more Scouts. That's fine, as long as the situation doesn't involve one adult and one youth. (Of course, if we're talking about a Scout with his or her parent/guardian, that's always OK.) For example, let's say Troop 451 is driving to a campout. There are nine Scouts and three adults on the trip. The first SUV might have two adults and five Scouts. The other would then have one adult and four Scouts. This is not a "two-deep leadership" violation. What about if there are only two adults present on a campout of eight Scouts, and one group wants to go hiking while the other stays at camp to fish? While Youth Protection policies don't expressly forbid it, it's not the recommended approach because of health and safety concerns. What if one of the adults gets injured or has an emergency? In those situations, it would be helpful to have a second adult present. It is prudent to have at least four leaders: two to go on the hike and two to stay at camp.

LIONS AND TIGERS AND GIRLS, OH MY!

As we start to think about the upcoming fall recruitment, there is so much new to consider. The Lions program will be available council wide in the Fall of 2018. This will allow kindergarteners to join as Lion Scouts and participate in age appropriate activities. Also, for the first time, girls will be able to join Cub Scouting in the fall of 2018. Many of these children have been attending Cub Scout pack meetings for years, but now they can actually join Cub Scouting and be officially a part of the group. With all of these changes, we need to make sure that we are ready to include these new members and to follow the BSA policies for Family Scouting and the Lions program. One excellent way to begin to prepare your Pack is to attend University of Scouting at Mickey Leland College Preparatory Academy for Young Men (1700 Gregg St., Houston, TX 77020) on March 24 and go to the sessions on Family Scouting (course 7) and the Lions Program (course 27). These courses will have the most up to date information and will help all of our Cub Scout Packs to prepare. The Orion District has been piloting the Lions Program and will be there to share their experiences and offer their advice. Come learn firsthand what works best with these younger scouts. While you are there, check out some of the many other excellent courses being offered this year. Get together with leaders from other units and other districts and share your challenges and your successes. There is so much that we can learn from each other and the fantastic faculty that will be teaching at this year's University. Come out and join the **FUN!**

CALENDAR

- 3/24 University of Scouting
- 4/14 Scout Fair
- 4/19 Council Coordinated
- 5/1 Silver Beaver Nominations Due

UNIT STRONG

The deadline to complete the detailed assessment with your Unit Commissioner is almost here! This is an important tool in assessing the health of your unit and setting goals for the upcoming year! Make sure that you have this done before March 31!

Have a great idea, pressing concern, success story? Email squareknotnotes@yahoo.com. We serve *you*!
Do you call communication feedback a gift? It truly is!